

REMARKS

The claims pending in the present application following entry of the foregoing amendments will be claims 9-12. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended above to clearly distinguish the claimed compounds from the prior art. Specifically, as amended, Claims 9 and 10 no longer encompass compounds where in both R^3 and R^4 in formula (I) are hydrogen.

Applicants hereby confirm the election of the species of Claim 12.

Claim 12 has been allowed.

Claims 9-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by *Comptes Rendus des Seances de l'Academie des Sciences, Serie C: Sciences Chimiques* (1969), 268(15), p. 1407-9 (CAPLUS abstract). Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As indicated above, Claims 9 and 10 have been amended so as to eliminate the possibility of both R^3 and R^4 in formula (I) being hydrogen. All of the compounds disclosed in the above-cited reference are substituted with hydrogen at both the R^3 and R^4 positions. Thus, Claims 9 and 10, as amended, do not read on the compounds disclosed in the reference and consequently are not anticipated by this reference under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

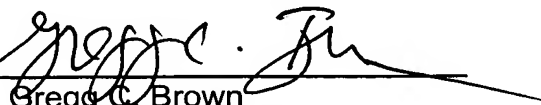
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
ALCON RESEARCH, LTD.

Date

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By:


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